



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEW.

BUSINESS
Gov't posts P482-M budget surplus

NEWS
P-Noy wants fewer 'holiday economics'

WORLD
Christmas chaos in Europe as snow snarls travel

NEWS
Palace bans purchase of SUVs, luxury cars



Trillanes adds more muscle to 'macho bloc'

By Gil C. Cabasaguen Jr.

ONE MORE tough guy coming up. The "macho bloc" of Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile is expected to gain more muscle with the arrival of Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV next month. Trillanes will join Senate Pro-Tem...

TRILLANES ADDS MUSCLE

MOONING The moon is seen during a total lunar eclipse from New York, on Tuesday. Some indirect sunlight still pierces through to give the moon its reddish hue.

Rage rises vs Garcia deal

Trillanes' promise: No more coups

By Christian V. Esguerra

BYING THE had learned his lesson in his seven years in detention, Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV yesterday pledged not to again take up arms against a government he would consider corrupt or tyrannical.

On his first day of provisional liberty since the July 2003 Oakwood mutiny, the former Navy lieutenant said he would go through official channels in reporting whatever gripe he might later have against President Aquino's administration. "I use that the President is going off track, I will tell him about it directly," Trillanes told.



WHAT TO WEAR IN CASE OF WAR A fleet displays military uniforms of the past during the AFP's 75th anniversary rites in Camp Aguinaldo. It unveiled its new counterinsurgency policy called "Oplan Bayan."

P-Noy unveils new policy vs rebels

By Norwin Bantolera and Dona Z. Paez-Rugon

WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING that the small amount pales in comparison with their incomes in battling insurgents, President Aquino yesterday announced

an increase in the combat pay of soldiers from the current P240 a month to P500.

He also revealed the general policy of the AFP's new counterinsurgency program, dubbed "Oplan Bayan," after the Filipino tradition of community

voluntarism. It will take effect on Jan. 1, 2011, and will run for the rest of the Aquino administration.

"Instead of pursuing armed rebels, we will focus on the needs of citizens and the efforts of whomever the houses will tell you the story."

PAGE 18

By Lela B. Salaveria, Philip C. Tibesa and TJ Burgin

BUSINESS GROUPS, the clergy, former soldiers and former prosecutors have added their voice to the growing clamor to undo the plea bargain deal between the anti-graft court's prosecutors and retired Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia that allowed him to leave his detention cell despite being charged with plunder.

The Makati Business Club (MBC) and the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) slammed the deal, saying this could embolden other plunderers to take the same route.

In a joint statement, the business groups and the agreement are contrary to the Aquino administration's anticorruption platform.

"It also serves as an open invitation for all others charged in

corruption cases to pursue the route of plea bargain and thus the risk of encouraging future cases," the MBC and MAP said.

Under the plea bargain deal, state prosecutors allowed Garcia to evade the capital offense of plunder by pleading guilty to the lesser offense of bribery and money laundering and receiving some P130 million of the P300 million he was accused of illegally receiving while he was

PAGE 18

2 ex-NBI chiefs face off today over Vizconde case

By Marlon Ramos

AS THE CLOCK ticks for resolutions to find the real killers, two former directors of the National Bureau of Investigation face off today at the start of a new inquiry into the

Vizconde massacre. Epifanio Tanas and Mariano Alano have been assigned to appear before an investigatory task force of special investigators and state prosecutors created by the Department

DECEMBER 23, 2010

Apl.de.Ap back home to give back

By Pachito Concepcion

APLDEAP is home for the holidays and he's playing Santa Claus to people close to his heart: poor children.

The 36-year-old Pil-Act rapper and record producer, known worldwide as one-half of the chart-topping hip-hop group Black Eyed Peas (BEP), is doing a three-night series of charity performances that opened in Cebu on Sunday.

The show resumes tonight at Kapolei, one of the poorest

APLDEAP

TELLING THE FILIPINO STORY TO THE WORLD

Today's March 23 days, we will be telling stories about the last man to mark the paper's 25th anniversary on Dec. 5, 2015. Some are little-known stories but important on how we cover unfolding events; some are mark-the-day stories that became talk-of-the-town topics; others are daring-point stories that have changed the landscape of history; still others, big or small, seize the heart and never let go. For whatever the houses will tell you the story.



PDI launches Amazon Kindle edition

By JV Rufino

IT'S ANOTHER first for the Philippine Daily Inquirer. The newspaper, which recently

celebrated its 25th anniversary, has launched its Kindle e-reader edition on Amazon.com. (<http://www.inquirer-phil.com>)

PDI LAUNCHES KIT

Covering inside and out the Ted Failon case

By Henry C. Carvajal

THE TED FAILON story was remarkable because it was the first time a hard-hitting media personality was linked to the alleged murder of his spouse. While making out with other

reporters just outside the station of Ted Failon in Quezon City in April last year hours after his wife allegedly committed suicide, we noticed a sleek silver Jaguar parked in front of the broadcaster's residence. The two-wheeled sports car

turned out to be owned by now controversial real estate developer Gedlin Lee, who said in a later interview with Inquirer that copy editor Tina Arcon-Danlapan told him and Failon were good friends.

Except for the sports car and

ABB-CEN vehicles, no other vehicles were parked near the station in the upscale Tiera Park Subdivision where we got there.

We found out that Lee was among the first to reach us

COVERING KIT

WEATHER FORECAST
For Metro Manila and surrounding areas:
Today: Partly cloudy, 28-34°C
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 28-34°C
After Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 28-34°C
... (rest of the weather forecast table) ...

Second FRONT PAGE
... (rest of the masthead and logo) ...

1221 1 22 6 4 5 3 8 4
5IX DIGIT 7 22 3 1 13 24 34 35
... (rest of the lottery numbers) ...

10 of Morong 43 still in jail

By Kristine L. Reyes
FIVE days after their release was ordered, 30 members of the so-called Morong 43 are still in jail.

According to their lawyers, five of the 43 detained health workers were not released from Camp Cagayan since January, four remained in the Camp 5, and one remained in the Camp 6.

Those who are in Camp 5 are being held in the same cell with other detainees.

Those who are in Camp 6 are being held in the same cell with other detainees.

Those who are in Camp 5 are being held in the same cell with other detainees.

Those who are in Camp 6 are being held in the same cell with other detainees.

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Those who are in Camp 6 are being held in the same cell with other detainees.

Those who are in Camp 5 are being held in the same cell with other detainees.

Palace bans purchase of SUVs, luxury cars

By Norman Borlaza

MANILA—The palace has banned the purchase of sport utility vehicles and luxury cars by government agencies, including government-owned and -controlled corporations, government financial institutions and local government units.

Executive Order No. 1, signed by Executive Secretary Danilo Lim, bans the purchase of SUVs and luxury cars by government agencies, including government-owned and -controlled corporations, government financial institutions and local government units.

The group, who have been charged with illegal possession of firearms and explosives, was last Friday, a week after President Arroyo ordered the justice department to drop the charges against them.

Marling said the military has not moved to release the five in their custody. They are considered legally released and should be freed from the camp and returned to their families.

The military refused to do so, he said. The military said the group's lawyers have yet to talk to the five that are being held in Camp 5.

According to lawyers, the group were killed by the police during the five-week siege. The group was released to the five from the five of the five.

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6,000 OFWs in Afghanistan jobless by yearend

By Michael Lee Lim

SCIENCE CITY—Over 6,000 Filipino workers (OFWs) in Afghanistan will lose their jobs by the end of the year if the government fails to lift the ban on deployment of OFWs to Afghanistan.

To prevent the mass repatriation of OFWs from Afghanistan, Congress has passed a resolution requiring the Department of Labor and Employment to conduct a study on the impact of the ban on deployment of OFWs to Afghanistan.

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FEWER HOLIDAYS IN 2011
Noy denies caving in to foreign trade groups

... (rest of the article text) ...

Inspection of Tuguegarao public buildings ordered

... (rest of the article text) ...

VP leads welcome of OFWs

By CJ Yap

A DAP ally President Aquino personally met and greeted returning Filipinos in the airport, the first that Aquino himself personally led the welcome for " Balikbayans" from the Middle East, citing their contribution to keep the Philip-

pine economy afloat. The greeted, posed for the cameras and shook hands with two batches of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), who arrived aboard Qatar Airways Flight 605 and Israeli Airways Flight 3V 862 at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport terminal 1.

"Every Filipino must be thankful to our OFWs because they are the new heroes who help our economy," Binay said in an interview with airport reporters. USGale said it was the first time a Vice President led the annual welcome for the OFWs homecoming, a tradition normally done by the President.

Binay said he would make it a new yearly tradition so that not only the President, but also the Vice President would come to greet the balikbayans. With Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) chief Carmelita S. Olason, Binay also

led the awarding of relief prizes amounting to half a million pesos to 22 OFW winners. Prizes ranged from P50,000 to cash remittance passes. The prizes will come from the OWWA, the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), and social and educational partners of OWWA.



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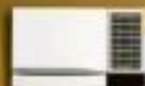
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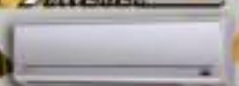
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Bukidnon
Today

1. The first step in the process of identifying a problem is to recognize that a problem exists. This involves gathering information about the situation and identifying the specific issue that needs to be addressed.

HEALTH

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100

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

2. Once the problem is identified, the next step is to define the objectives and goals of the project. This helps to clarify what needs to be achieved and provides a clear direction for the team.

3. The third step is to develop a plan or strategy to address the problem. This involves breaking down the problem into smaller, manageable tasks and determining the resources needed to complete each task.

4. The fourth step is to implement the plan. This involves putting the strategy into action and monitoring progress to ensure that the project is on track.

5. The final step is to evaluate the results of the project. This involves assessing the outcomes against the objectives and goals and identifying any areas for improvement.

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do you
have?



2000-2001

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Population (millions)	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6
GDP (billions of dollars)	100	110	120	130	140
Unemployment (%)	10	12	14	16	18
Inflation (%)	5	7	9	11	13

INFRASTRUCTURE

1. The first step in the process of creating a new product is to identify a market need. This involves conducting market research to determine what consumers want and what problems they are trying to solve. Once a need is identified, the next step is to develop a concept that addresses this need. This concept should be unique, valuable, and feasible. The third step is to create a prototype of the product. This allows the company to test the concept and make any necessary adjustments. The fourth step is to conduct a feasibility study. This study evaluates the technical, financial, and operational aspects of the product. The final step is to develop a business plan. This plan outlines the company's strategy for marketing, selling, and distributing the product, as well as its financial projections.



ENVIRONMENT



HOUSING

[illegible]

EDUCATION

[illegible]

PEACE AND ORDER

[illegible]

Statistical treatment of responses

³ A 1992 survey among women reported that 80 percent of women who had ever been sexually abused by a family member had been sexually abused by a family member who was a family member of the victim. (See: *Family Violence: A National Study of Women's Experiences*, by the National Center on Women and the Justice System, 1992).

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Cowardice of P-Noy's men

THE REPLY to the news article titled "GMA keeps grip against attack in SC," the Supreme Court's decision to deny the petition for writ of *habeas corpus* filed by the P-Noy administration, was a clear statement of the Court's position on the issue. The Court's decision to deny the petition for writ of *habeas corpus* is a clear statement of the Court's position on the issue. The Court's decision to deny the petition for writ of *habeas corpus* is a clear statement of the Court's position on the issue.

The Supreme Court, sitting en banc, shall be the sole judge of all cases involving the election, recall and qualifications of the President in Vice President, and may promulgate its decision for purposes. Clearly, P-Noy was not a victim of the Court's decision.

The Supreme Court ruling that "the much-contested is unconstitutional" is only a partial victory. The Court's decision to deny the petition for writ of *habeas corpus* is a clear statement of the Court's position on the issue. The Court's decision to deny the petition for writ of *habeas corpus* is a clear statement of the Court's position on the issue.

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THAT'S THE FEELING OF 2007-2007

Trillanes' promise: No more coups, I'm P-Noy's ally now

From page B1

the sequence by photos from his house in Marikina City in Rizal, "I already have the radio, the power and influence in the military (which) is the previous administration's legacy," he once boasted," he said.

Trillanes' leader of the Nacionalista Party attended last in Marikina during the presidential campaign.

Trillanes said he was now an ally of Mr. Aquino, who earlier called President Arroyo, Mr. 73, preventing Arroyo to offend and said she took part in the 2007 elections against the administration of then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, in making the 2007 steps of the Philippine Senate. The Senate of Congress have entered in the province.

Major Judge Oscar Pimentel said that Trillanes' temporary freedom, while his application for amnesty is being processed, was released from the Camp Crame Detention Center in Quezon City.

He is "under the custody of the... I mean, through the Office of the Senate President," Pimentel said in the release order. He said the government is not releasing Trillanes, but the Supreme Court decided down his release to attend the Senate proceedings.

"Call of difference" Trillanes displayed the possibility of eventually meeting again, Mr. Aquino, saying that he was not sure if he would be released from the detention center and his personal freedom.

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to the will of the people, he has no desire to be in support of the government.

People's mandate President Aquino said he hoped that Trillanes would follow the people's mandate.

"We fought for his right to give order to the military government by the people to do his duty," Mr. Aquino said, reportedly on the condition that Trillanes will give order to the military government by the people to do his duty.

The two men might meet in the Senate in 2009, under the leadership of the Senate President, Binay, who is in the Senate. The two men might meet in the Senate in 2009, under the leadership of the Senate President, Binay, who is in the Senate.

Trillanes launched his candidacy with a promise to restore the rule of law in the Philippines. He was not allowed to campaign and was not allowed to be in the Senate in 2009, under the leadership of the Senate President, Binay, who is in the Senate.

"Call of difference" Trillanes displayed the possibility of eventually meeting again, Mr. Aquino, saying that he was not sure if he would be released from the detention center and his personal freedom.

"He is well-meaning and... I mean, through the Office of the Senate President," Pimentel said in the release order. He said the government is not releasing Trillanes, but the Supreme Court decided down his release to attend the Senate proceedings.

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FREE AGENT Sen. Antonio Trillanes poses for a photo with his wife and children in a recent photo.

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Judge Pimentel of Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 101 said he had no objection to Trillanes' release, but he said that Trillanes' release is not a political move, but a political move.

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"Right now, there are those who have been waiting for 30 years to see a president who is not a military leader," he said.

Kids jumping for joy After from his home in Marikina, Trillanes said he was not a political move, but a political move.

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Covering inside and out the Ted Failon case

From page B1

Trillanes' release on April 15, 2008, after the shooting incident, but he was not released from the detention center.

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the National City Police Station at the entrance of the hospital.

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PDI launches Amazon Kindle edition

From page B1

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All's not well at Manila City Hall as workers seek release of allowances

By James T. Gandi
IT'S just a few days to go before Christmas, the atmosphere at the Manila City Hall is anything but festive.
The reason: 3,000 city employees have yet to receive their 12.5% cost-of-living allowance.
The frustrated employees, mostly female and mostly in the middle management ranks, a clerk at the accounts and auditing division, told the business press.
When asked to cite which law he said he could not recall, he said he was unsure.
The added that this was the first time they requested a delay in the release of the allowance since Mayor Alfredo Lim was elected into office in 2007.
Another clerk, Milner Yumang, posted at his office and said, "We did not

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MMDA goes easy on vendors

By Tim B. Santos
THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has given sidewalk vendors a reprieve this holiday season.
But the agency was quick to add that the reprieve would apply only to vendors who do not obstruct pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
"While our sidewalk clearing operations continue, in the spirit of Christmas, we will allow the sidewalk vendors to peddle their goods (for) as long as they give space for pedestrian and they do not block the flow of traffic," said Tim Mazon, the agency spokesperson. "But any pedestrian (will) continue to keep an eye on them."
Mazon said MMDA Chair Francis T. Irujo has issued the order following consultations with Metro Manila government officials.
The reprieve will be in effect until Jan. 2, he added.
"Come Jan. 3, the agency will resume its anti-disorder vendors' drive and we will actually take a tougher stance against them," he said.
According to him, the MMDA will use the help of the Department of Interior and Local Government in enforcing measures to make the agency's sidewalk operations more effective.
The MMDA has been playing a cat-and-mouse game with street vendors who obstruct traffic in various areas in the metropolis. When asked as to the added that sidewalk vendors already threatened the agency with Local Government, Secretary Jesse Benitez.
"Usually, sidewalk vendors just go back (to) peddling their goods after they are driven away by the agency's clearing group, so we may have to (take) a different tactic this time with the help of the local government units," he said.
He added, however, that although tougher measures would be enforced by the MMDA, their personnel would not figure in a clash with sidewalk vendors away or harm them overboard. "A severe common during the past of former MMDA Chair Reginald Francisco."
"We will not use that kind of approach against sidewalk vendors but we deliberately send an message from the agency," he said.

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A11

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

DECEMBER 31, 2011

John Lawrence B. Dizon

The WORLD

Church sex scandal has hit unimaginable dimension, Pope says

ROME—Pope Benedict XVI said on Monday that the mounting sexual abuse scandal in the Roman Catholic Church had reached a "degree we could not have imagined" this year, and that the Church must reflect on its failures, help the victims and prevent abusers from becoming priests.

"We must ask ourselves what we can do to repair as much as possible the injustice that has occurred," the Pope said in a pastoral letter to the Roman Catholic hierarchy. "We must ask ourselves what we must do to protect the innocent, in our whole way of living the Christian life, to allow such a thing to happen."

In recent months, investigations in Ireland, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands have found that clerics had sexually abused children in the past and that the Church hierarchy had often covered up the abuse.

Victims have accused the Vatican of not acting decisively and swiftly enough to discipline abusers

and end of using complex bureaucracy and canon application of Church law to protect priests over children.

This month, the Vatican published a letter from 1986 that it said showed that Benedict, then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the head of the Vatican's doctrinal office in charge of handling abuse, had sought ways for earlier punishment for priests accused, at the time, for sexual misconduct.

After the abuse scandal erupted in the United States in 2002, the Vatican introduced fast-track canon law punishing priests, and US bishops introduced a non-admission policy in which priests are suspended at the first accusation of abuse. But victims have called that too little, too late.

The Vatican has said that it is working on a series of guidelines for bishops to advise them how to handle abuse cases, including reporting abuse to civil authorities in countries where it is required.

In his message to his bishops, the Pope also thanked "the many good clerics" and "all those who work to help victims and to restore their faith in the Church."

But he warned on ways the Church needed to change.

"We are well aware of the particular gravity of this sin committed by priests and of our corresponding responsibility," the Pope said. He added that the scandal should be seen "in the context of these times."

He said that in recently in the 1970s, the devastation of pornography was not well understood, and thus today's market in child pornography and its viewers should also be in demand. New York Times News Service

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- **Biz Buzz:** Square one at CAAP/B3
- **Meralco secures loan** from PNB worth P2.5B/B7

Editor Rod G. Manalo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mariano

BUSINESS

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Gov't posts P482-M budget surplus

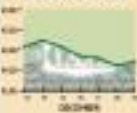
November figure trims 11-month deficit to P269.8B

INDICATORS

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44.300



STOCK MARKET

Dec. 21, 2011

14.8



Stocks continue to rise

LOOK: STOCKS moved up for a third session yesterday as investors barge-fueled upward pressure from profit-taking.

The main-stock Philippine Stock Exchange index gained 15.8 points or 0.36 percent to 4,451.04.

Property and mineral led the day's gains as first expected earnings ended 1 percent and 1.75 percent. Only the Industrial sector traded below red.

Value investors' has remained steady at P4.45 billion or below the P5.16 billion average seen during the rise up to mid-September. Domestic investors continued to lead in gain-leading activities but the pace of foreign-selling has slowed with only P7 million in net foreign

selling posted during the day.

"Investors have been trying out of positive trade for three to four days and this period ends up in a welcome development for them," All Capital Securities said in its daily note.

"Investments remain cautious as the outlook on the country's economic growth could weaken again in the fourth quarter. The country's latest leading indicator showed that it grew at its slowest pace in four quarters. However, the last leading indicator of the year-2011 remains positive due to last management's effective planning activities," it said.

Selling might be the end of the year was seen at between 4,000 and 4,200. **Ben C. Chen**

By Ramon M. Domingos

THE GOVERNMENT posted a budget surplus of P482 million in November "on improved revenues and judicious public expenditure management," Budget Secretary Florencio B. Alad yesterday said.

This put the budget deficit for the 11 months to November at P269.8 billion, or 0.9 percent of the P29.2-billion ceiling for 2012.

Compared to the P29.54 billion deficit incurred in the same period last year, the shortfall was just 1 percent lower.

"With positive developments in both the revenue and disbursement fronts, we will most likely keep full-year overrunning within the target cap," Alad said.

He said government spending from January to November was P24.3 billion, or 8.3 percent lower than the P31.47 billion planned disbursement for the period.

"We are not only more within the cost but also have enough spending room for December," Alad said.

He explained that while the government spent below the planned disbursement, this

would not compromise economic growth since spending was higher compared to last year.

January-November expenses increased by P16.4 billion or 5.2 percent from P31.4 billion in the same period of 2010.

In a statement, Finance Secretary Gusto V. Palatino said that with a second month of budget surplus out of five months under the January administration, the government's P30-billion primary deficit as of July was turned around in a primary surplus of P2.2 billion for January-November.

Palatino was referring to the budget surplus of P1.3 billion that was recorded in August.

The primary deficit as surplus excludes interest payments on

rescheduling debts.

"On the income side, the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Bureau of Customs continued to make headway in their respective campaigns against tax evasion and smuggling in both specific import and excise-duty revenues in all sectors last month," Palatino said.

"We are confident that the succeeding months will bring in higher or positive collections as the campaigns gain traction and taxpayers become increasingly convinced that it is not business as usual and that they need to pay appropriate taxes," he added.

Revenue from January to November reached P1.1 billion, or 0.1 percent higher than last year's P1.02 billion. The BIR continued

BON 10

Banks' exposure in property sector up 10.3%

By Michelle K. Borne

THE EXPOSURE of banks to the real estate sector registered a double-digit increase in the third quarter from a year ago, according to data disclosed by residential and commercial banks.

Despite this, overall bank of funds and the country, which has witnessed a surge in inflows of foreign capital this year, was not yet facing any danger of asset price inflation.

Data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas showed that the exposure of the country's commercial, commercial and credit banks to the domestic and credit sectors amounted to P113.8 billion as of end-September this year, rising 10.3 percent from P103.7 billion a year ago.

The BSP said P481.05 billion were in the form of credit granted to individuals and entities that purchased residential and commercial properties. That

was 10.1 percent higher than the P366.87 billion in outstanding real estate loans recorded as of end-September last year.

The balance of P1.34 billion was accounted for by investment of banks in equities and bonds issued by real estate firms. The amount was up 19 percent from P9.68 billion a year ago.

Officials said the due to real estate loans was backed by a more robust demand both for

residential and commercial units. The demand, in turn, was buoyed by rising liquidity in the economy resulting from higher remittances, foreign investments and remittance flows.

Many families of overseas Filipinos workers are part of the real estate buyers who pay down payment for residential units they purchase, affirms BSP board members. They only ask bank loans to help them fully pay for the units.

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Expenditures in November reached ¥11.1 billion, higher by 9.1 percent than the ¥10.2 billion spent in the same month of 2000.



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BUSINESS

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Aboitiz eyes hike in Magat plant capacity

Final investment decision may be done by February 2011

By Amy R. Roco

AN ABOITIZ Power Magat Inc. said it would proceed with the feasibility study on the expansion of the 260-megawatt (MW) Magat hydroelectric plant in Isabela to up to 540 MW to shore up power supply in Luzon over the next five years.

According to Aboitiz Magat, the feasibility study was for reduced load with the addition of a new extension of under-

standing between Sto. Nino and the existing Magat plant. The company said it is a "feasibility study" to determine if the 260-MW plant is a "feasible" project. The company said it is a "feasibility study" to determine if the 260-MW plant is a "feasible" project. The company said it is a "feasibility study" to determine if the 260-MW plant is a "feasible" project.

Final investment decision

The result of the feasibility study will determine whether the plant will be expanded. The company said it is a "feasibility study" to determine if the 260-MW plant is a "feasible" project. The company said it is a "feasibility study" to determine if the 260-MW plant is a "feasible" project.

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- Santa Evening show at 9pm

KAOS

NEWPORT CINEMAS

Bangko Sentral sees slower growth in forex reserves in 2011

By Michelle V. Roco

THE COUNTRY'S reserves of foreign currencies may post a slower growth in 2011 after hitting an all-time high this year, given the challenges in the global economy that could dampen exports and remittances, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said yesterday.

It said the annual recovery of the US economy from the latest global crisis and the volatile situation in Europe might moderate a dip in the export income of the Philippines and on the global demand for Philippine labor, which affects remittance to the country.

"The [gross international reserves as of] 2010 year may not get as strongly as what we have in the past year. Nonetheless, our external position and we will continue to be strong," said BSP Deputy Governor Diosdado Cusi.

According to the BSP, the country's gross international reserves grew by 10.1 percent in 2010, from \$114.4 billion to \$126.0 billion. The BSP said the country's gross international reserves grew by 10.1 percent in 2010, from \$114.4 billion to \$126.0 billion.

Biz Buzz

...of the country's biggest exporters have been hit by the slow recovery in the US and Europe. The country's gross international reserves grew by 10.1 percent in 2010, from \$114.4 billion to \$126.0 billion.

BANK OF FLORIDA AND GCASH

OFFER MOBILE BANKING SERVICES TO CENTRAL LUZON

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To date, Bank of Florida has a total of P130 assets. Together with RBAP and MABS, GX is proud to partner with Bank of Florida in continuously updating the website and introducing innovative services.

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BUSINESS

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UEM raising P30B to finance project, NGCP debt

\$3-billion worth of debt inherited from PSALM

By Dave C. Dantes

UEM PPA, Inc. is building from CIM Development Philippines, which will take control of provincial electricity superhighway approved by National Grid Corp. of the Philippines, plans to raise P30 billion to build long-term toll infrastructure and infrastructure debt.

NGCP is estimating about \$3 billion in liabilities from state-owned Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM) but says that the income stream of NGCP is strong enough to cover all the liabilities that we will be inheriting.

The group has 25 provinces under its jurisdiction which could also be influenced in the future with better business terms. It said reports on what UEM's special stockholders meeting yesterday.

Gary Cheng, managing partner of UEM financial adviser Norman Chan, said that the company would need to raise about P10 billion through a combination of debt, equity and hybrid instruments.

"Based on our engagement, I'd say early in the next 40 months if market conditions are good," Cheng said, when asked about the timing of the P30 billion bond raising.

During the meeting, several shareholders appeared to be in favor of the company's authorized capital stock to P25 billion from P10 billion. The issue of P10 billion will be divided into 100 million common shares at a par value of P1 per share and 10 million non-voting, non-inclusive preferred shares at a par value of P1 per share.

"We're exploring all options," Cheng said, noting that on top of preferred shares, UEM would look at debt and other instruments.

A potential follow-on offering is also on the agenda given the income to authorized capital.

UEM, which will be owned by UEM & Development Philippines Inc., also stated that shareholders approved a share repurchase scheme that will allow it to take over the companies that aggregate control about 50 percent of UEM.

The plan is to issue 100 million common shares of P1.00 per share in exchange for all the outstanding shares of UEM & Development Philippines Inc. and UEM & Development Holdings Inc. The

UEM

Solution eyed for crown rot in PH bananas

By Rex T. Ochoa

INTERNATIONAL AND local companies are seeking to produce an organic solution that will cure Philippine banana crown rot, according to the Philippine Council for Banana Development and Marketing (PBMA).


Without chemical treatment, banana crops from the country show signs of rotting within 21 days of harvest, making them less appealing to consumers.

In a press conference, PBMA executive director Ricardo Caribao and PBMA vice president of banana companies regarding the commercialization of a solution-containing fungi and bacteria that are believed to be the best.

Among those that had expressed interest were Chemagro Technologies, Inc. and Dole Asia (Cebu) and Chemagro, a Philippine-based producer of bio-fertilizers, nitrates, and growth regulators for domestic and export markets, had the technological capability to reproduce the bacteria and fungi in a large-scale.

Dole Asia, which gets fruits and vegetables from various countries, is apparently planning to use the organic solution in products for export to Asia (New Zealand) and Middle East.

"So far, we still have no contract with Dole Asia for the implementation of a trial to determine if the use of the bacteria is effective in reducing crown rot," said Caribao.



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A modern view of The Grand Midori Makati

Text and photos by Teresa R. Salazar

PLAMT LOOK a learner. That's how Philippine-based foreign manufacturers Pele and Jenson Allen describe it, their website the Philippine Islands. "That the Filipino character is similar to the learner for its flexibility, endurance and harmonious relationship with nature. Peleys can bond with the wind, and like the green it has been blessed by, can survive drought and dry season storms—cooping with the order than fighting it."

Pele Imperial Baguio is one such Filipino manufacturer that exemplifies the "learner" spirit of the Pele as a learner.

Pele is the vice president of a struggling Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturer Association of the Philippines, an organization founded under the weight of the globalisation of vehicle parts manufacturing.

But Pele, who has been manufacturing vehicles for automotive manufacturers Isuzu, Mitsubishi, Ford, Nissan, Isuzu, but lately Isuzu Atkinson and Isuzu with his company Isuzu, has wisely avoided putting all the proverbial eggs in one basket.

In the wake of global integration within the local parts manufacturing industry, Pele has discovered another business ecosystem.

And the prospects here are nothing short of electric.

Pele now also leads Philippine Valley Vehicle Inc. which has been responsible for introducing the electric-powered joggers riding along Ayala Avenue in Makati City. This group has produced close to 10,000 units of electric vehicles including 50 e-joggers (with automatics).

Living in electric dreams

The "stock" of necessity

Pele attributes his increased interest in electric vehicles to the struggle of MVA for survival. The massive challenges global parts manufacturers have brought upon the local industry, he wouldn't have looked for a "fallback" business such as the manufacture of electric-powered vehicles. When he felt the financial "pinch" on one side, necessity forced him to look to other sides

and wind turbine energy.

Over the past three years Isuzu has been awarded in this largely unexplored area of energy production, he has been able to develop a fully operational, since Isuzu began all electric car, all-electric powered scooter, self-charging golf cart (with solar panels), e-bike and even an electric-powered bicycle. Many that chat, Isuzu

Ferdia Raquelcarros is all charged up with his environment-friendly vehicle innovations



FERDIA's e-bike is one of the electric vehicles he has developed.



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TOYOTA
moving forward

The most dynamic most high-tech Volvo

At THE Christmas shopping season, Volvo's 2011 S60, introduced this week, will be one of the most dynamic cars on the market for something that will keep on going through the winter months. It's a luxury car, but it's a car that's built to last. It's a car that's built to last.

Volvo's advanced safety technology has become legendary worldwide. The safety isn't only on the car, it's in the car. It's in the car.

The 2011 S60, first introduced at the 2010 Detroit Auto Show, is the second generation of Volvo's entry-level sedan, having debuted in 2001. The first S60 sold about 100,000 units over its six-year life span with sales peaking at 170,000 units in 2002.

PROGRESSIVE Volvo designed the new S60 to be more powerful and more extensive without being aggressive. The low, sleek, coupe-like profile of the S60 evokes a sense of aerodynamic motion and provides quiet driving conditions in the coldest winter months or the heat of the sun.

This premium is carried over by the 240 HP 3.0 liter, 6-cylinder, turbo-charged engine producing 244 hp/3000 rpm and max torque of 240 lb-ft/2300-4000 rpm. All this power (top speed, 244 mph) is delivered smoothly through Volvo's second-generation, 6-speed Geartronic transmission with sport and manual shift modes, but no paddle shifters. Although it is built on

for some platforms as the new S90, S80, S70, S60, S50, S40, S30, S20, S10, S0, S-40, S-60, S-80, S-90, S-10, S-11, S-12, S-13, S-14, S-15, S-16, S-17, S-18, S-19, S-20, S-21, S-22, S-23, S-24, S-25, S-26, S-27, S-28, S-29, S-30, S-31, S-32, S-33, S-34, S-35, S-36, S-37, S-38, S-39, S-40, S-41, S-42, S-43, S-44, S-45, S-46, S-47, S-48, S-49, S-50, S-51, S-52, S-53, S-54, S-55, S-56, S-57, S-58, S-59, S-60, S-61, S-62, S-63, S-64, S-65, S-66, S-67, S-68, S-69, S-70, S-71, S-72, S-73, S-74, S-75, S-76, S-77, S-78, S-79, S-80, S-81, S-82, S-83, S-84, S-85, S-86, S-87, S-88, S-89, S-90, S-91, S-92, S-93, S-94, S-95, S-96, S-97, S-98, S-99, S-100, S-101, S-102, S-103, S-104, S-105, S-106, S-107, S-108, S-109, S-110, S-111, S-112, S-113, S-114, S-115, S-116, S-117, S-118, S-119, S-120, S-121, S-122, S-123, S-124, S-125, S-126, S-127, S-128, S-129, S-130, S-131, S-132, S-133, S-134, S-135, S-136, S-137, S-138, S-139, S-140, S-141, S-142, S-143, S-144, S-145, S-146, S-147, S-148, S-149, S-150, 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Heaven and hell

Plan travel routes in advance, leave early and go home late to avoid traffic

THE LAST few days have been both heaven and hell for car enthusiasts in our country, particularly in Metro Manila. Heaven because temperatures are cooler, which means more power and efficiency for us as we pleasure drive on this road also in a more densely packed with cars, a real temptation to power propulsion.

SKID MARKS



Roberto Sarmiento

Heaven again to those travelling further south, as the connection between Cebu, Laguna to Negros, Zamboanga and the EDSA Toll is finally open, despite the TNR issued to call for closures. The operators of these infrastructure projects have, in the spirit of Christmas, decided to open the roads in good faith, for the benefit of motorists, despite our own government's prohibition. Lots of crying in some over every major infrastructure developer. Thank you very much, a nice thing Christmas gift to motorists in Metro Manila as well as the Southern Tagalog region.

But a hell-brother hell as well due to the enormous traffic jams that reach all the way to midnight. It is quite frankly amazing, not because of all the traffic-related accidents caused by agitated drivers much behind the wheel, but because with these enormous traffic jams, a 17-minute pile-up in EDSA caused by an over-speeding truck that supposedly hit its brakes shows people parked in EDSA on both lanes because of course, using the 17 minutes that we are, the capacity lines were filled with drivers slowing down and rubber-necking the huge pile-up at the overpass.

But really, hell for those who reach the contact center industry. Because we have given our people our hell, we're giving, dragging us through it can be longer hell as we go home late and sleep full prey in exhausted situations. Last week, a young 30-something call center agent was kidnapped, raped from hell. Her last job was a call center, working very late, and all alone. The young, courageous girl was apparently alone and reported to the authorities who had happened and within a few hours the suspect was apprehended. I hope the suspect was apprehended. I hope the taxi driver gets what he deserves.

I personally don't mind sleeping of friends, friends who in particular to their homes after a long night out. A college acquaintance of mine was also alone, raped back in the day, and I am here, crying, that was very tough, very confident and also very attractive. She was all that and more, which was why I was a target for another taxi driver. Thankfully, with presence of mind she was able to jump off the taxi in a crowded area.

So how are we getting ourselves? How do we avoid situations that can play hell and hell in hell? Really, we all know the answer is that, avoidance is much better than any cure. Plan your travel routes well in advance, leave early and go home late to avoid traffic, and give very, yield to other motorists, you never know who might be in a life-threatening situation. It does it in with the Christmas spirit doesn't it? It is better to give, than to receive. We can't give everyone a gift, but we can give everyone something that is very important to us (which is the case of my situation on the road). The right of way.

As for commuters, travel always in groups of three or more, and avoid travelling late at night. Sleep over a friend's place if you must. It is easy to get wrapped up over the Holiday spirit, being our guard down reduces our ability to think clearly.

For more information, please email: roberto.sarmiento@comcast.com



The World AfterSales Program Club (WAPC) Global Award

Universal Motors cops Nissan Global Aftersales award again

THE AFTERSALES Department of Universal Motors Corporation (UMC), the country's largest and oldest (50+ years) 100% owned, manufacturer and distributor of Nissan Light Commercial Vehicles has been chosen for the Grand Prize of the 'World After Sales Program Club (WAPC) Global Award'.

The 'World AfterSales Program Club (WAPC) Global Award' is one of the most important honors conferred to a Nissan distributor by Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.

The WAPC honors the best National Sales Companies (NSCs) which have proved a generally remarkable growth and performance in the previous three years.

Masashi Hoshino, corporate vice president of Nissan Motor Co., Ltd. Japan cited UMC Aftersales Department on its impressive achievement in spite of the challenging economic environment.

Universal Motors strongly believes that UMC Aftersales Department winning the award for the second consecutive year proved its strong belief regarding the customer's cost and the capacity to overcome crisis in the coming years.

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This is a great listing of the best resources - as in our comments, Barbara Fingers



- 3 Year term; annual, tapered, community-based fee, \$10000/Year at the Board's Discretion
- Transfer current address with a direct connection to the RFP, 1991 and 2007, 3 years with the completion of the first 1991 RFP fee was added retroactively
- 4 Yr. grants for each of the three largest blocks of work received
- One member must reside and work within the watershed basin
- Private land garden club with a minimum grant of \$10000, reflecting public, nonbusiness area, noncommercial area, outdoor art, large trees, public area, gardens, playgrounds, etc. (third largest public, best kept garden with existing trees, a meeting space with fountain or water feature)
- Board establishment and a fee-reduced to the general public
- Watershed area from the American RFP basin to the Board's commitment

Source: *Author's compilation*



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FIGURE 1 *Example of a single trial*



The HOLY Christmas as a beautiful golden scene surrounded by Christmas bells.



Q&A: Media drummed up a picture of metals threaded through and pulled through bodies.

Have a merry, maximalist Christmas!

To designer and antiques collector Antonio Peña Jr., Yuletide is the best excuse for the aesthetics of excess.

By Mary C. Ewing
Contributor

KIDZ'N If antique collector Antonia White's middle name. When it comes to decorating his home, White leaves no space unturned, as they are cluttered with his rare collection. Every Christmas, his door becomes a thrifty trader's nightmare.

When Peto and his partner Scott Jones, a trader, and their children Winston, 13, and Lorraine, 4, moved to their new home in New Windsor, he instituted his minimalist style in decor. There are two things he really likes: simplicity, grand outdoor organization; hence, for his Christmas decor, the overall ambience is minimalist and serene; the "King and I," Thomas's garden, Peter Christ-

"Ouf! He, pade-eyene," he says with a grin, referring to his floral equation. Everywhere seeing is confused with smelted (German: *schmelzen*), and the confusion continues.



T9-08 | H-20A738: heavy lathe made of a single piece of free-finish steel



DANIEL SUTHER An old Moorish glass Venetian chandelier hangs over the antique desk with white flowers and Chinese plates and glass.



ADDITIONAL Photos by the way about looking at the

large Christmas balls, placed alongside with great iron and heavy iron cases.

Color coordination

Prata took up Interior Design at University of Santo Tomas, but ended up becoming a fashion designer. While at UST, he had an apron shop, choosing up the colors. It was then that he also started collecting antiques. The first antique jar was an ornate green porcelain with the design of the four seasons. From great Chinese jars, he started acquiring traditional jars from Cambodia, blue and whites from the Ming and Ching dynasties and other Oriental jars with dragons and zodiacs.

"This is my style, a mix of Asian and Polynesian antiquities," Deke says. "That armchair from Bali and vintage tables like the 1950s-style table of stainless steel and glass blend with the European pieces like the Italian cabinet with a Carrara marble top and three panels in several languages."

The house is a repository of his collection, come from his travels and friendships with colleagues.

"Christmas is all about colors, but make sure they are coordinated. My theme is color-coded like the gold with amber and copper for the Christmas table; black and gold for the Chandeliers; purple, fuchsia, blue and silver for the glass collection; and red, white and green for the Piney set."

Grudeur

PhotoJet System, with resolution a range of graphics by installing a multi-stroke

chandelier across a modern mural. So satisfied with antique Andean vessels, he decked the chandelier with wangs of amber and soap stones. An elevated sense of geometric shapes in red, white and gold sets off the antiquity of the Chinese table, taken with blue-and-white and black wax. The bed (on slide out the house

The pendant for paired propensities entered through the corner. A point blinding drum leads the eye upward, at its base, Pei has tied a band of metallic threaded wire, encrusted with red and gold Chinese man balls and tiny twigs. "I wrapped it around like a necklace," he says.

A corner is dedicated to one of his favorite designers, Chased. The black table, topped by a mirror with etched designs of flowers and leaves, is matched by printed leather antique chairs. An antique African bronze pine chair stands completely on its own. The table is laid out with Chinese glasses, china and silverware and an antique rug against a setting of blue and white pots, aluminum vases, lamps, and boxes of red lacquer. I know, in three years for the weekend? To underscore the mood is no link, a hat is set on a pedestal with Frenchman's.

Petra's modern wing is a curved glass table decorated with oversized thorned crystal globes in various heights, filled with big-cracked glass balls in fuchsia, purple, cobalt blue and silver. Beneath them are crystals in red, white, amber and green. The chairs are adorned with old leather

used for certain jobs: Needed among the poor in the Holy Child living on a bed of sack and straw.

In the lanes, Motta created a fantasy out of his select Italian chairs with red velvet cushions. They flank the Mieschke table set with other response and exhibition galleries. He has placed his collection of scrolls, books, crystal vases, porcelain and bronze jars on the 30-foot marble table, backed by an old Mieschke tapestry. "It's like having high tea with my *all'c'*," he says.

The piece belongs to Filipino creativity by setting up a culture of peace (also dealing with export-quality warring). In contrast to his glass setting, the artist scatters peace on war-torn. He uses fabric-covered balls (some woven baskets) carrying all peace and, for a touch of edifying, a small thimble drum, a mother of pearl shell (Hawaii) jar on the rough-washed (Babel) cabinet. A notion of a rice granary pool is discerned. All the peace.

Ships will always have his most famous, A 12-foot Chianina, the horse over the 14 waterfalls, made from solid brass. It compares with the 18-foot American chandeliers draped with beakbills of black oyst and crystals. He exaggerates the play of scale in stucco from bubble to chimney.

village, composed of miniature buildings and the Three Kings. Its branches are lacquer chains, edged with blueish gold but patterned, under glass, with

The Peñis, the secret of stimulating is creating a childlike sense of play with model games.



QUEEN Now that I'm joined with a lovely Italian bronze sculpture, with a glass top, the *Chlorothraupis arbutus* [parakeet] is a side table. Chlorothraupis is a stuffed toy, and a common little bird.



FILMING camera consisting of native baskets, the gourd pot, a Muslim drum, an antique diamond wooden cabinet and Christmas stockings made for export.



2011 calendars

YEAR 2011 calendars—in wall, desk, board and mini designs—ranging from P157-P165 are now available at National Book Store.

The calendars have inspirational bible verses, words by award-winning poets, cute baby pictures, breathtaking scenery, and landscapes, adorable animals and beautiful flowers.

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PHOTO: DINO GONZALEZ

CORRECTION

The photo at left used in the article about Sanitar Designs in last Monday's Arts and Books section has the wrong caption. The correct caption: "Theresa Ongpin and her wife, Pamela (Sanitar Designs) Ongpin, grandmother of Dorian Ongpin, with their children. Leftmost of the back is Melissa (Ongpin) with a son-in-law." Our apologies.—Ed

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DR. GREG ALVIOR has chosen gardens to fill, apart from medicine. Since suffering from osteoarthritis, of the knee nine years ago, the retired OB/gyn has had to give up tennis, and now spends his waking hours gardening and tending a foundation.

By Alan T. Fergies

EVER SINCE he chose to retire in the Philippines in 1990 after 30 years of practicing in New York City, Dr. Greg Alvior has been occupied by three things: gardening, tennis and his work as president of Philippine General Hospital (PGH) Medical Foundation.

Well, aside that two, as the retired obstetrician-gynecologist has had to give up tennis for good after developing osteoarthritis of the knee three years ago. Those days, the "professional lugger" as Alvior describes himself, spends more of his free time swimming in his private pool and tending to his lush tropical garden he himself designed.

Like to green past, the lush garden again brings a nostalgic feeling for his similar Thomas Jefferson. In fact, one would be hard pressed to differentiate artificial from real greens if not for such obvious giveaways as manna and golden balls and glossy red ribbons.

"I do everything myself with the help of my friend," Alvior says proudly. "I never seem to get tired of my garden because there's something new to see and discover every day."

The entire house just happens to be a match piece. The main event is reserved for the back, which is planned to such garden staples as aralia, lily, Passiflora, bromeliads, bougainvillea, ferns, plants, flowers and a host of "mosses" plants and hanging vines with dairy blossoms.

"I chose a style of French gardens that had me to the limit in when the outside in," says Alvior, referring to his two-story, neo-classical Mexican-inspired house, in which he collaborated with architect Domingo Salonga. "I used to go about every year to Mexico, particularly to the colonial city of Oaxaca, which explains the inspiration."

Measure to blip

Believe it or not, the house was once painted mauve until the hands was turned into a garden blue. Alvior finds the mixture of various plants to achieve an unusual look.

CHRISTINE GARDIN 54



ALVIOR draws inspiration from colonial houses in Oaxaca, Mexico, one of his favorite vacation destinations while working in New York, to produce a "classic" dwelling that's both homey and conducive to a lush, tropical garden.

Christmas garden with a heart

Dr. Greg Alvior puts as much heart in his garden as in his work as head of a hospital foundation

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HEY, THIS IS A PARKING LOT, NOT THE SEA

BY JOHN SCOTT

BY MURA CULLEN

10 May (Friday) *Phyllis*, postcard sent to Jeffrey but not yet received. Received a letter from Jeffrey dated 28 April. He is going to see his doctor tomorrow.

11 May, 22 and 23 Jun. *Phyllis* returned to my room after a holiday with Janet and John. She is now living with Janet and John. She is now 65 years old. She will be a grandmother by June.

12 May, 24 and 26 Jun. *Phyllis* is now married but is separated from her husband. She is now 66 years old. She is now a grandmother by June.

CHRISTMAS stockings— from punky to ethereal, from copper-gold and maroon to red and green—reflect the colors of the season.



1. *Admission*—part of the cost of attending a particular school, which was originally more similar to tuition in the public sector.



Christmas garden with a heart

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path as more had something to do with it.

Time of my wishes was to have a cit-

riber waitress like this is in Women Demosn's house in "Honest House-
and," he says with relief. "Because I
live in an apartment in New York, that
wasn't possible."

When the opportunity arises early and give something back to the Philippines presented itself. Advice, now in

biweekly 75 and sometime of 50 mg. Orally. Didn't think twice about such low dose for this man.

"Work, which is part of the IIP system, is close to my heart because I'm also a product of the University of the Philippines," he says. "Our public health operations can alone ensure

to \$1.7 billion a year. The finding is quite close to the truth, says the study's author, "We really need to better."

Other Americans like efforts at "historic designation," which considers visually important architectural pieces that frame a section of overgrown area forests, as "traditional," if change, he says, is being considered.

What keeps his winnings from looking tired and dated is, in fact, that they're made up of colors that other plants found in his garden— from the mix of yellow-green, mauve and touches of gold to vivid hunter green. It's definitely a classy shade for the same one with soft hints and a big boost.

Beware of 'rewarding' phone calls

REMEMBER this is the means of giving and receiving love but *must* not be accepted unthinkingly or given off-handedly and carelessly.

I received a call a few weeks ago from a woman who claimed she was working for the two major multi-level marketers—Vita and Multi-Mix. She said I was among the thousands who contributed to a highly skewed. Asked what the reward was, she mentioned medical or health insurance and a few other things I did not quite get. For someone who supposedly worked in multinational companies, her English, including her pronunciation, left much to be desired.

So if you get a similar call, keep in mind that the major card issuers had already denied my knowledge of this account. From experience, I know if there is important information like loyalty rewards. My bank would put that information on my monthly statement of account on a routine.

Definitely a phone call from a woman who obviously was more comfortable using T9 signs would not be one of the ways they would use to communicate the message.

CONSUMER
T. Robilo

of cents again. It is not just the 10 cents that they do not want to have but even 25 cents counts as he is short-handed.

I usually have five and now in my walks knowing they would come in handy, but 20 crates have not been much of a problem.

Most cabdrivers will apologize and tell you they do not have the coin for your exact change but one cabdriver at Mountain Drug Store in Walkersville (Spring Town) in Madison City was something else. When I asked her attention to the fact that my change was 25 cents too short, she said, "OK no big deal!"

Of course, it was not okay I was the one who was without the additional 25 cents. Can you imagine how much they will make on any given day if customers do not get their 25 cent coin?

Sent letter to The Consumer, column section, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 1000 China Building, Cor. Alameda and Nagas St., 1204 Station City, Tel. 897-7761, Pk. or e-mail Buletik@comcast.net

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FBI just arrested
the suspect.

Hold me a second! What's it supposed to be getting a reward for being a loyal Visa cardholder? If they did know how long I had been using the card, how did they choose me to win the reward?

So, I told her I did not have the time to talk to her on the phone but since Cliffrank, which owned my card, had my e-mail address, it would just send me the details of the generous offer so I could carefully

Of course I did not expect to hear from her again. And was enough there was nothing in my mailbox about the loyalty reward.

decided having such a program and would like to see them on shelves and to tell us this year. I don't know what the women would have asked from me. But since I was not ready to give her the information she was obviously taking this I never got to that

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LIFE STYLE Parenting

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How to talk to our kids regarding alcohol

By Marisa Delapena
Contributor

I HAD just come from the make-up for daughter's wedding. I knew the child was 15 years old. Her life was cut short when she passed away in a car accident a few months ago. She was only 15. Her dad, a friend, who was driving, had come from a pre-arranged alcohol consumption.



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What could be more painful than losing a child you wanted to see grow up in the future?

In reality, no one is spared from the dangers of alcohol consumption. The more an adult, it's a common picture—young adults, barely out of their teens, getting that "red" face in town.

We have children, nieces, nephews, students, neighbors and

Let's not just say, 'Don't drink'—better, tell them the virtue of self-control

friends who are teenagers. To the time of peer of teenagers every smoking, parties, get-togethers, discuss Alcohol won't be too far behind in themselves.

And since young people are born to join in on the fun, plus the pressure of their friends and the call of the happy occasion, they may end up using

such the rules we've set for them regarding alcohol abuse.

Controlled substance

Alcohol is not should be considered a medicinal substance, not only the possession of, but the consumption of it as well. This is not a problem with responsible social drinkers. The problem

starts when a teenager, or anyone not fully aware of the consequences, takes the greatest life effort to lose on the first and last.

It takes only five to 10 minutes for alcohol to be absorbed into the bloodstream from the stomach lining, and the capacity to take it to the point of intoxication is relative. Generally, it around 100 milligrams of alcohol per glass of wine, the body has been relaxed and less inhibited.

Anything more than that could be

DECEMBER 22, 2010



How to talk to our kids regarding alcohol

From page 1

ult to altered speech, poor motor-body coordination, increased emotional reactivity and tension.

Thus, alcohol disrupts normal brain development and processes, the degree of which could be temporary or permanent.

Priming
This is the time to remind our kids to start being more proactive with our children's behavior and self-growth. It's valuable to know that not only are they experiencing physical changes, their brains are going through the same phase as well.

Priming
In their youngest years, the brain is like a sponge, absorbing every bit of information it could get. By the time kids are going into the brain undergoes a maturation process called "pruning"—much like the pruning of a tree, whereby branches which are no longer needed are discarded to improve the

overall capacity of the tree for future growth.

Although the brain never stops changing and adapting, this critically formative stage continues until the "ripe" age of around 21 years. The neural structures which we see through changes in the visual, physical, and brain development, most likely demonstrated in the way they verbally communicate with us, are significant at this period.

We also know that they start socializing more with their friends and other people they meet outside of their usual childhood world. Along with this comes the pressure to fit in with other peers and friends.

Now imagine how our teenager will cope with being teased for not drinking or not drinking enough, for they need to know—and with the growing pressure happening inside their brains at this stage, their decisions and forms of behavior could

have a concerning effect on identity formation.

While our teenager continues alcohol, it can severely affect his or her thinking, great the brain process that is going on without proper guidance, whether used or to be taken around them outside the house, they will constantly feel confused about what is right and wrong and doubt their own competence as young adults. Thus, their inability to make the right decisions might also become heightened risk and more.

This is why we have to build a strong foundation of trust, level of honesty and communication with our teens. As our parents can only do so much, we cannot totally control whatever awaits our children when they step outside the secure confines of our homes.

Teaching a level one because of an alcohol-related incident does not only damage the rights and their self-worth, it wounds us as their families,

relatives, friends and those who are in their lives.

Key to prevention

Being more communicative is key to prevention and preventing them from the same. This goes beyond knowing the dangers of over drinking, but setting in our children the values of self-control and tolerance will heighten their willingness and enhance their self-confidence.

It only takes a few minutes to spend some time with your teenager before they might see, to remind them how much you love them, to tell them you'll be there for them when they need you, to teach them how they grew up.

Did they even know people? This was the direct. Ask questions that could lead to knowing the kind of environment they had just experienced.

Children, especially teenagers, dislike a when parents say, "This is why teaching our kids should be a lifelong

process. Make them know that, as they experience the world outside, even if you are not beside them, you will not be behind.

Let's not just say, "Don't drink." Rather, we properly communicate to them the value of being in control of their self when in the presence of a challenge or temptation. We not only inform them about the dangers, we also give them the benefits of making the right choice. Which do they prefer then, to appear in control of the situation or out of it?

Advise them to never get into a car with a drunk driver. The life you save may not only be your child's, but your entire life.

The young girl's friend survived the crash. And I cannot start to imagine how she will live her life knowing the survival, while her best friend did not. In each and every one of us, a lesson is learned, that what is a lesson learned is to be repeated.



DESIGN-PRIDE. Up clothes to keep the looks "glad," which is a bit of "to go" whenever the clothes are worn.

No pop-star costumes . . . From page 11



kid might say if you're clothes with them, for they are not too big, they'll keep looking at it.

When should you watch out for days and parents on kids' clothes, these are not to be worn or worn out. Make sure they have a good hand feel. At Uniqlo, we make sure the clothes are laid, especially the women's style.

Uniqlo, which serves kids from 6 months to 14 years old, has also introduced a new line where it had been the trend also carries a small maternity line. The Uniqlo line also expanded into men's wear with another handcrafted line. "I'd like to see a more complicated than kids' clothing," it says. "More thought and detail goes into each piece. It's an uphill climb expanding overseas, but we do not have to look good and be good in quality."



A STYLE how the Uniqlo line is called Vintage Chic.

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No pop-star costumes, please —only age-appropriate kiddie clothes

By Christine V. Mend

IT'S THE folly of many a parent, dressing up their kids in kooky, novelty clothes just because mommy thinks they're cute.

This is a sin in Sabrina Uy's book. The author of two is also the founder and chief designer of children's clothing brand Gingersnaps.

"I don't believe in making kids pose for their 'look good,'" says Uy, 40, the shades parent should pick out clothes that their kids feel more confident and comfortable in. She doesn't suggest forcing kids on wearing something they don't want.

For when a child is as big as you did get the size 10, always try to teach a compromise when picking out clothes for her. Laugh, for who, this mom says, has long suggested her pick first.

"She says yes, so I don't have to be too," she says.

What she really is her children is to learn to dress appropriately for special occasions.

"But if it's rough and ready, they should be comfortable."

Uy was still single when she started Gingersnaps. 10 years ago, most adult selling that there is a woman's clothing brand the most of with a child. Gingersnaps, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur and, now, Paris, China.

When she married, Uy had difficulty convincing that when she finally got pregnant, her father-in-law urged her husband, Jerry to leave the family house and move to his own house in the suburbs of Gingersnaps (Jerry Uy's family name is the Gingersnaps brand name).

In just a year, she says, Gingersnaps grew from one store to eight. "Gingersnaps" is a play on words.

After then directing the design of their boutique—there are 30, plus 27 stores in the Philippines—Jerry Uy has been responsible for expansion, including selling the brand's franchise to other countries, where there are now 13 department stores in Bangkok, three boutiques and two department stores in Jakarta and 16, another in Singapore, plus 100.

In 2011, Gingersnaps will open its first boutique in Dubai, and soon to Italy, Doha, all across shops are in prime locations, the

"I like kids to look like kids. They will have all the time in the world to dress up as adults," says Sabrina Uy of Gingersnaps



PARENTS will see kids in new gear. (Uy's) or vintage-themed outfits for their little girls from the brand. They're Uy's parents.

Gingersnaps and Tinkerbelle in Singapore, he says.

Prody Philippine-made

But many know that while every other brand has outsourced its production to China, Gingersnaps has kept the manufacturing in the Philippines, despite being it seems to be able to access the quality locally.

"The customer perception that only within the Philippines," Uy says. "If we do it in China, we can't access the quality. Then there's copying. Now, we have QC (quality control).



HOME should also work out for them and parents' (Uy's) clothes. They're that look to each other and, Uy adds.

people going around?"

Safety is such a primary concern for child clothing that the Uy's refuse to compromise just to save bucks. The children's garment business is "a lot harder" than adult clothing since there's the question of safety, says Uy. They can't be having small clothing parts like buttons falling off and being swallowed by their little ones.

"This, there's no such deal here, as we want to keep that part," she adds. "Now we're expanding to places where some may think the Philippines has nothing good to offer. But once they experience (the products) they're convinced."

In the Philippines, they sell on new apparel every so often as, Uy says, shopping is a way of life.

"We don't have Disney or a lot of those parks to bring our kids, so we're always at the mall."

Design-wise, the aim is to keep the look "global" such that a child will "fit" wherever the clothes are worn. Lastly, given Gingersnaps' commitment to quality, and Gingersnaps' expansion abroad, the line also encompasses styles for adults.

Parents will not find ready-made costumes, or vintage-themed outfits for



DON'T force kids into wearing something they don't want, says Sabrina Uy, founder and designer of children's wear Gingersnaps. Also, costumes for girls and boys from the brand.



But lower prices, not more that are a challenge as they may bring your kids the worst.

Price points

The Uy's have been criticized about the price points for their children's clothing. They say parents may not be willing to spend too much, but the brand's Gingersnaps parents from buying clothes for their kids, thinking the kid will grow in to them, expecting them and find it fine.

"If we see the clothes fit, I'm happy," she says. "I just tell parents to get the lower end. If we see that that's not too big, the

BY CHRISTINE

CHINESE ACROBATS THIS CHRISTMAS: A Holiday Treat of Culture and Art



In China, acrobatics is more than just a form of entertainment. It's a tradition that has been passed down for centuries. Chinese acrobats are known for their incredible skills and artistry. They perform a variety of acts, including balancing, juggling, and acrobatic gymnastics. The Chinese National Circus is one of the most famous acrobatic troupes in the world. They have performed in many countries and have won many awards. Their performances are a true treat for the eyes and a celebration of Chinese culture and art.

in the Big Circus Christmas Spectacular on December 18th and 19th at the



Chinese National Circus. The troupe is known for their incredible skills and artistry. They perform a variety of acts, including balancing, juggling, and acrobatic gymnastics. The Chinese National Circus is one of the most famous acrobatic troupes in the world. They have performed in many countries and have won many awards. Their performances are a true treat for the eyes and a celebration of Chinese culture and art.

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Carlo Rossi Sangria

ENTERTAINMENT

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FIVE just noticed? Some TV talent are so busy and "in demand" that there aren't but a

One week's work means his Th

After that, we noticed that he shows his eyes for a few tidbits

This is great for the busy guy.

who must be making millions of pesos per minute. To his credit, he's sometimes good at what he does...are the quality of his work, as we negotiate and other businessmen on TV as take time off and not agree to do everything that's shown there now.

VIEWER



Author
J. L. Kozicki

http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jmb

Anchor: TV personality ends a show only to quickly reappear again on the same channel in another program with a different format. This is most acceptable, but it still brings the fact that the channel he works for has a very thin "brand" of on-air talent, and that isn't a good thing.

Which is why we were very pleasantly surprised one day last month when we caught a show he said about people in their 50s and older, and one that is anchored by... Tina Turner.

ville. "We haven't seen the series on TV here on the tube for years, so we were really glad to see her doing and looking so well."

Despite having some criticism from TV, Yoo did a really good job hosting the show, which boasts good health for mature people. That is the perfect subject for the program because it's the prime example of what mature viewers can hope to attain for themselves if they eat, drink and live healthily.

We noted that producers of other TV programs have taken note of *That's good* showing on late "crunchback" shows, and will tap her to host their own programs as well. She's too good to waste, in "Newscasters."

mode, and she could watch younger TV hosts do things on *Survivor* or *Wipeout* that to her would seem outrageous. She'd be watching the same thing that she'd be watching on the tube.

What about Trease Shuman, which walked their off of our

TV screen would be much livelier and less of a break into the world than on board. Now hope a savvy TV producer will go behind me enough to act on these feelings of mine.

**Bicol patroness film
a labor of faith, love**



HAGA CITY—A film about a dysfunctional family reuniting through God's unseen hands and the Virgin Mary's intercession premiered here on Friday as part of the continuing celebration of the 500-year devotion to Our Lady of Pili in Manila on Isla, the patroness of Rizal province.

It will be shown nationwide and worldwide through HBO/CBS's *Star Line* on Feb. 8, 2011.

Written, produced and directed by award-winning filmmaker Marlon Dias Azeite, "Have my Dog Ring" is a collaboration of the Netherlands of Coenen and the Marlon Dias Azeite Film Institute and Arts Center.

Wagdy Kattouch Nerguiz, rector of the Sullery Mission, the permanent home of MA, said that the idea to make a commercial film was "very important."

Aga new Ka



broached more than three years ago. But things only got going when the publisher contacted Adams, who plunged into the project last June.

In her director's memoirs, *Diagnose* revealed that this was a disaster of the Mashed Potato, and that she had been on remission from breast cancer when she agreed to direct the film. She said she was decidedly negative of cancer risks in June this year, allowing her to finish the movie before December.

She described the making of the film as "gruesome," but added that its production cost of \$11 million was only half of the average budget of a commercial film. Joan Swencher Jr., *Legends*

Aga new Kapatid . . .

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Is she sounding off her home state that if it doesn't take care of her, she will jump ship? How many degrees of separation are there between being a Rapunzel and a Kardashian?

Wild humans
Julia Lloyd Goss and Marina Waples are spending New Year in Beijing. Hopefully, it won't make naughty suggestions and state nations worse than the "capital lock" some spread the wildlife again. Then again, it's not.

IMBY copy of *The Unholy Trinity*, "Father Jefferson" & goes "Please, brother Father Ignace, because in the words of the Holy Eucharist is contained the sacrament of our life, and in another sense the Holy Eucharist is a seed in us, the sacrament of an old man." We must forsake the mockery and domination of the highest form of worship, let's not let the King of Comedy to make fun of the King of Kings."

Knowing *The Unholy Trinity*, I am sure it was not his idea. He could have let his high priests, maybe, or best if they just edit out those offensive scenes to appease the compromised Catholics.

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